

and practice . . . and played with purpose, endurance and confidence.

Lopez High School Principal Maggie Gutierrez summed up the lessons for the team to learn in this sweet victory. "This team has a spirit of never giving up no matter what," she said. "Lopez Lobos are born to succeed, and no one else will tell them any different." These athletes learned an important lesson in this championship: They are absolutely capable of doing great things; my prayer is that their imaginations will be their only limits in this world.

I offer my proud congratulations to each member of the team, to the coaches and their assistants, to the parents who must endure the practices and the injuries, and to the principal and teachers who set the example of combining education and athletics. Mostly, I want these young people to understand that they won far more than the respect that comes with a championship . . . they now know that dreams can come true.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering our best wishes to the Lopez High School Lobos for their hard-fought and well-deserved victory at the Texas Class 4A State soccer championship.

RECOGNITION OF LAWRENCE ROBERTS

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute a student at Mississippi State University who has demonstrated athletic excellence this year and distinguished himself in the ranks of college basketball not only in my state, but across the country.

Mississippi State's SEC Player of the Year, Lawrence Roberts, is the first Bulldog player since Rickey Brown (1979–80) to average a double-double for an entire season. Roberts completed the 2003–04 campaign as the SEC's No. 7 scorer (16.9 points per game) and second-leading rebounder (10.1 rebounds per game). Roberts also finished the year ranked fifth in the league in field-goal percentage (51.9%). With an SEC-leading 16 double-doubles on the season, the 6-foot-9, 235-pound Roberts ranks fourth nationally among active NCAA Division I players with 38 career double-doubles. The former University of Baylor transfer and Houston, Texas native has averaged 16.3 points (1,400 career points) and 9.5 rebounds (821 career rebounds) per contest during his three-year, 86-game collegiate career.

This season, Roberts helped lead Associated Press SEC Coach of the Year Rick Stansbury's eighth-ranked Bulldogs to a 26–4 overall record and league-best 14–2 SEC mark en route to claiming the school's first outright SEC regular-season championship since 1962–63. This year's State squad also made school history by appearing in a fourth consecutive postseason tournament and earning a third straight NCAA Tournament berth.

Roberts' teamwork benefited the entire Bulldogs squad. But his skill on the court distinguished him individually, and he has been recognized for his achievements. The accolades continue to roll in.

In addition to being named the SEC Player of the Year, Roberts is the first Associated Press All-American First Team selection from a Mississippi Division I school since fellow Bulldog Bailey Howell in 1958–59. In addition to earning a slot on the gold standard of postseason teams, Roberts has also garnered first-team all-America recognition this season by both the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) and United States Basketball Writers Association (USBWA).

He adds first-team national honors by the Sports Illustrated.com and College Insider.com Web sites as well as by the Adolph F. Rupp Award committee. Roberts has also collected second-team all-America accolades by the Basketball Times publication and ESPN.com.

Roberts has been named a top five finalist for the 28th Annual John R. Wooden Award along with Stanford's Josh Childress, Chris Duhon of Duke, Jameer Nelson of Saint Joseph's, and Connecticut's Emeka Okafor. Roberts becomes Mississippi State's first-ever Wooden Award All-American, which dates back to the 1976–77 hoops campaign.

Bulldog fans will wait till mid-June to see whether Roberts will return for his senior year or enter the NBA draft. This young man has time to make that decision and consider his opportunities, but fans in Mississippi will be watching him either way, either on the collegiate court or in the professional arena.

THE PASSING OF LARISA BOGORAZ

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on April 6 of this year, one of the true giants of the Soviet and Russian human rights movements, Larisa Bogoraz, passed away.

Born in eastern Ukraine, Larisa Iosifovna Bogoraz was by profession a linguist. In 1950, she married the writer Yuli Daniel who, together with Andrei Sinyavsky, was subsequently arrested by Soviet authorities in 1965 for publishing their stories abroad. This trial, marking the first prosecution of Soviet writers for their literary activities since the time of Stalin, gained international attention and laid the groundwork for the Soviet human rights movement.

Daniel and Sinyavsky were convicted by a kangaroo court and sentenced to long terms in a Soviet labor camp in the Mordovia region. Traveling to visit her incarcerated husband, Larisa Bogoraz met relatives of other political prisoners. Soon she was deeply involved in drafting and distributing petitions calling upon the Soviet Government to observe the basic civil liberties enumerated in the 1936 Soviet constitution.

In early 1968, Larisa Bogoraz joined Pavel Litvinov to produce a petition addressed to the international community and protesting the trial of dissident Alexandr Ginzburg, who had compiled the well-known "White Book" on the trial of Daniel and Sinyavsky. In August of that year, when, as Ludmilla Alexeyeva wrote so eloquently, "the Politburo decided to 'strengthen peace' by invading a sovereign country," Larisa and six other brave souls met on Red Square and unfurled banners in defense of

Czechoslovakia and condemnation of the crushing of "Prague Spring." For their noble efforts, they were arrested by the KGB, tried, and convicted of "slander" against the Soviet Union. Bogoraz was sentenced to 4 years of internal exile in the Irkutsk region of eastern Siberia, where she worked in a wood-processing factory. In a show of solidarity and respect for her, Larisa's dissident friends combined their resources and bought her a house to live in while she served her exile term. When she completed her sentence, she sold the house and gave the proceeds to a fund for political prisoners.

By 1976, she was back in Moscow actively involved in the compilation of the "samizdat" publication "Memory" dedicated to chronicling the repressions of the Stalin era.

Meanwhile, personal tragedy struck. Larisa's second husband, Moscow Helsinki Group member and political prisoner Anatoly Marchenko, died of a hunger strike in Chistopol Prison in December 1986. The Helsinki Commission, which I am proud to chair, had raised the Marchenko case on several occasions, and the late Warren Christopher, our head of delegation at the CSCE meeting in Vienna, led a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Marchenko. The Soviet and East German delegations walked out in protest, but a few weeks later Dr. Andrei Sakharov was released from his Gorky exile, and in February 1987 General Secretary Gorbachev initiated the wholesale release of Soviet political prisoners.

After the fall of the Soviet Union, Larisa Bogoraz continued her involvement in human rights activity, working with her colleagues from days past as well as a new generation of activists from Russia and the newly independent countries of the former Soviet Union.

Mr. Speaker, in its eulogy to this dissident heroine, the Ryazan Memorial Society writes, ". . . texts that were signed 'L. Bogoraz still remain,' and our children will learn from them."

So might we all.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN S. BURD, PRESIDENT, BRENAU UNIVERSITY

HON. NATHAN DEAL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the House to honor a pioneer and friend within the higher education arena of Georgia. It is with immense pride and a great honor that I pay tribute to a man that has made similar contributions to our region, but in the higher education arena. Please join me recognizing a friend and a community servant, Dr. John S. Burd, as he retires as president of Brenau University in Gainesville, GA.

Since donning the mantle of president of what was then known as Brenau College in 1985, it could be argued that Dr. Burd has accomplished more in under twenty years than all previous presidents did in the first 107 years of this fine institution's history. Since he first assumed office, his vision of private liberal arts higher education, his dedication, hard work, personal sacrifice, and love of the arts have transformed the college into a nationally recognized university and enhanced the lives